

REMARKS

Objection to claims 12 and 29

The Examiner objected to claims 12 and 29 because the Examiner does not understand the meaning of the word “optimizing” in the claims. Claim 12 is a method claim that recites “a method for optimizing a database comprising the steps of:”, followed by two limitations enumerated (1) and (2). Applicants respectfully submit that the optimizing of a database in claim 12 means simply the execution of steps (1) and (2). By changing the schema for the database in step (2), the data in the database is better optimized to allow for more efficient retrieval of the data from the database.

Claim 29 does not contain the word “optimizing”, so the Examiner’s objection to claim 29 is unclear. The database optimizer of claim 29 includes the limitations expressly recited in claim 29, which include making “at least one change to the database schema to optimize the performance of accessing data in the database”. This statement explains the optimization that occurs in claim 29. Applicant respectfully submits that claims 12 and 29 are correct and proper, and respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner’s objection to these claims.

Rejection of claims 12, 14-16 and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claim 12

In rejecting claim 12, the Examiner states that Maimone teaches step (1), which recites: “determining a preferred data type for at least one of a plurality of applications that access the database”, citing col. 4 lines 28-67 of Maimone. This cited language in Maimone teaches a way to enable objects of an object-oriented environment to be persisted in a relational database. If the database schema does not support the storage of

objects of a particular class, the relational database is dynamically reconfigured so the schema supports the storage of objects of that class. These teachings in Maimone, while very useful, do not read on the limitations in claim 12. Claim 12 specifically recites “a plurality of applications that access the database”. There is no teaching or suggestion in Maimone of applications that access the database. Furthermore, claim 12 recites “determining a preferred data type for at least one of a plurality of applications that access the database.” Even if Maimone could be construed to teach a plurality of applications that access a database, there is no teaching or suggestion in Maimone relating to data types, and the determining a preferred data type for one or more applications that access the database. For this reason alone, claim 12 is allowable over the combination of Maimone and Chadhuri.

The Examiner then addresses step (2) in claim 12, and states that Maimone teaches these limitations, citing col. 2 lines 34-48 in Maimone. While the cited language in Maimone does teach dynamically changing a database schema to accommodate an object of a new class, Maimone does not teach “dynamically changing a schema for the database to provide the *preferred data type*”, and does not teach the dynamic changing of the schema “when at least one of the plurality of applications requests access to data in the database”. Maimone has no teaching whatsoever regarding data types, has no teaching whatsoever regarding applications that access the database, and has no teaching whatsoever regarding a preferred data type for the applications that access the database. For these many reasons, claim 12 is allowable over the combination of Maimone and Chadhuri, and applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner’s rejection of claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Claims 14-16 and 18-19

Each of claims 14-16 and 18-19 include limitations regarding data type, which is not taught or suggested in either Maimone or Chadhuri. For this reason, claims 14-16 and 18-19 are allowable over the combination of Maimone and Chadhuri. In addition, each of claims 14-16 and 18-19 depend on claim 12, which is allowable for the reasons given above. As a result, claims 14-16 and 18-19 are also allowable as depending on an allowable independent claim. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Examiner's rejection of claims 14-16 and 18-19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

Allowance of claims 1-11 and 20-45

The Examiner allowed claims 1-11 and 20-45. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of these claims.

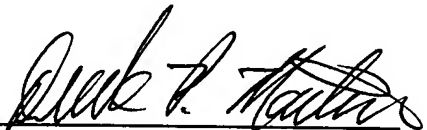
Objection to claims 13 and 17

The Examiner objected to claims 13-17 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but stated these claims would be allowable if properly rewritten in independent form. Claim 13 depends on claim 12, which is allowable for the reasons given above. Claim 17 depends on claim 16, which depends on claim 12, which is allowable for the reasons given above. As a result, claims 13 and 17 are allowable as depending on an allowable independent claim.

Conclusion

In summary, none of the cited prior art, either alone or in combination, teach, support, or suggest the unique combination of features in applicants' claims presently on file. Therefore, applicants respectfully assert that all of applicants' claims are allowable. Such allowance at an early date is respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned if this would in any way advance the prosecution of this case.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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